

BEFORE THE MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Gregory Scott  
Joel Jacobs  
Marshall Johnson  
Edward Garvey  
LeRoy Koppendraye

Chair  
Commissioner  
Commissioner  
Commissioner  
Commissioner

In the Matter of **Independent Emergency Services, Limited Liability Company's**  
Request for Approval of Certified Actual  
Costs Associated with the **Douglas County**  
911 Emergency Telephone Services System

ISSUE DATE: August 22, 2000

DOCKET NO. **P5270/ES-00-312**

ORDER APPROVING CERTIFIED 911  
SYSTEM COSTS

**BACKGROUND**

On April 13, 1982, the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (the Commission ) approved Douglas County's final plan for the establishment of a 911 Emergency Telephone Services System.

On November 15, 1987, the Commission approved the actual costs Runestone Telephone Association incurred for placing a portion of a 911 Emergency Telephone System in Douglas County.

On January 5, 1988, the Commission approved the actual costs Gardonville Cooperative Telephone Association incurred for placing a portion of a 911 Emergency Service System in Douglas County.

On May 19, 1988, the Commission approved the actual costs U S West incurred for placing a portion of a 911 Emergency System in Douglas County.

On December 21, 1988, the Commission approved the actual costs Midwest Telephone Company incurred for placing a portion of the 911 Emergency System in Douglas County.

On December 21, 1988, the Commission approved the actual costs Osakis Telephone Company incurred for placing a portion of the 911 Emergency System in Douglas County.

On December 10, 1998, the Commission approved the actual costs Independent Emergency Services, LLC incurred for placing a portion of Automatic Number Identification (ANI) service in the 911 Emergency System in Douglas County.

On March 23, 1999, the Commission approved the actual costs incurred by Minnesota Independent Interexchange Corporation for placing a portion of ANI service in the 911

Emergency System in Douglas County.

On August 3, 2000, the Commission approved the actual costs incurred by East Otter Tail Telephone Company for two trunk circuit routes for the installation of a portion of Automatic Line Identification (ALI) service in the 911 Emergency Services system in Douglas County.

On August 4, 2000, the Commission approved the actual costs incurred by Hutchinson Telephone Company for a portion of the data circuit transport for ALI in the 911 Emergency Services system in Douglas County.

### **CURRENT FILING**

On July 1, 1997, Douglas County contracted with Independent Emergency Services, LLC (the Company) for 911 Emergency Telephone Services.

On March 7, 2000, the Company completed installation of Automatic Location Identification (ALI) services in the Kensington, Millerville, Brandon, Carlos, Holmes City, Alexander, Garfield, Evansville, Miltona, Osakis, and Alexandria Exchanges. The Company also installed ALI database ports for Public Service Answering Points (PSAPs) between Hutchinson and Alexandria and between Annandale and Alexandria.

On March 13, 2000, the Company certified the actual costs it incurred for the provision of ALI service in the 911 Emergency Services system in Douglas County.

The Company is now requesting Commission approval of the actual system costs they incurred to set up databases and routers for ALI service. Commission approval is necessary before the Department of Administration (DOA) will make payments for 911 system costs.

### **FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS**

Minn. Stat. Section 403.11, subd. 3 states:

Subd. 3 (METHOD OF PAYMENT; CERTIFICATION.) A public utility incurring reimbursable costs under subdivision 1 or 2 shall certify those costs to the commissioner of administration. The certification shall be in a form as prescribed by the commissioner after consultation with the public utilities commission. If the commissioner and the commission approve the certified costs as appropriate and accurate, the commissioner shall pay the certified costs from money appropriated for that purpose within 90 days following receipt by the commissioner of the certified costs. The commissioner of administration shall estimate the amount required to reimburse public utilities for the state's obligations under subdivisions 1 and 2 of this section and the governor shall include the estimated amount in the biennial budget request.

Independent Emergency Services, LLC has certified, in writing, that the elements of 911

services and associated costs indicated on Attachment A, reflect only charges for services actually rendered in the direct provision of 911 service in Douglas County.

All charges listed on Attachment A are in accordance with the Company's tariffs.

The Commission finds that the costs for 911 Emergency Telephone Service in Douglas County which have been certified by the Company are appropriate and accurate.

Policy References:

Minn. Stat. Section 403.11 System Costs

Minn. Rules, pt. 1215.1400 Funding Eligibility/Payment of Recurring Costs

Minn. Rules, pt. 1215.1500 Funding Eligibility/Payment of Central Office Modification Costs

**ORDER**

1. The costs identified on Attachment A accompanying this Order are approved as appropriate and accurate pursuant to the Commission's March 21, 2000 Standing Order Designating Filings Requesting Certification of 911 Costs As Filings Subject to Approval Under Minn. Stat. § 216A.03, Subd. 7, Docket No. P-999/CI-99-1723.
2. This Order does not approve payment of any 911 system costs. Any possible future approval of payment for system costs shall be granted by the Commissioner of the Department of Administration in accordance with the provisions of Minn. Stat. Section 403.11.
3. This Order shall become effective immediately.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

Burl W. Haar  
Executive Secretary

(S E A L)

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STATE OF MINNESOTA)  
 )SS  
COUNTY OF RAMSEY )

AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE

I \_\_\_\_\_, being first duly sworn, deposes and says:

That on the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2000 (s)he served the attached **Order Approving Certified 911 System Costs for Douglas County 911 Emergency Telephone Service Docket No. P5270/ES-00-312.**

XX By depositing in the United States Mail at the City of St. Paul, a true and correct copy thereof, properly enveloped with postage prepaid

XX By personal service

XX By inter-office mail

to all persons at the addresses indicated below or on the attached list:

MR BILL SCHNELLMAN  
TELECOMMUNICATIONS DIVISION  
DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION  
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658 CEDAR STREET  
ST PAUL MN 55155

Subscribed and sworn to before me, \_\_\_\_\_

a notary public, this \_\_\_\_ day of

\_\_\_\_\_, 2000.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public